(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of Bangladeshi refugees as on date in the country; and

(e) by when they all are likely to be repatriated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) In continuation of recent discussions between India and Bangladesh, a meeting between chakma refugee leaders and Bangaladesh authorities was arranged at Ramgarh (Bangladesh) on June 30, 1994. At this meeting, it was agreed to schedule the commencement of the second phase of repatriation from July 21, 1994 during which nearly 3800 refugees would return. Earlier, a total of 1854 refugees returned to Bangladesh in February, 1994.

(d) The total number of refugees now staying in Tripura is approximately 54,000.

(e) while we favour speedy repatriation of all Bangladeshi refugees in full safety and dignity, it is difficult, to indicate the date of completion of repatriation at this stage.

Visit of heads of foreign stes/Governments to India

171. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of visits of Heads of States and Heads of Governments and other dignitaries from various countries who visited India from December, 1992 to June, 1994.

(b) the brief details of the subjects discussed by the Government with them, visit-wise;

(c) whether any agreements and treaties have been reached during these visits;

(d) if so, the details thereof, visit-wise; and

(e) the details of the Heads of States and Heads of the Governments likely to visit India by the end of December, 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): A list showing visits of Heads of State/Government and Foreign Ministers from various countries to India from December 1992 to June 1994 is at Annexure-I. [See Appendix 171, Annexure No. 4]

(b) to (d) The information is as per Annexure-II. [See Appendix 171, Annexure No. 4].

(e) Not yet finalised. However, the following visit has taken place in July:

July 7-8, 1994—His Excellency Mr Jozef Moravcik, Prime Minister of Slovak.

Indo-China joint working group

172. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the outcome of the 7th Session of the Indo-China Joint working Group (JWG) held in Beijing earlier this month;

(b) to what extent it contributed to the improvement of Indo-China relations and implementation of confidence building measures between the two countries;

(c) whether during the visit to China, the Foreign Secretary also made efforts to resolve bilateral, regional and international issues through foreign offices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (d) During the 7th meeting of

the India-China Joint Working Group (JWG) the two sides continued discussions aimed at arriving at a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the India-China boundary question. They also held discussions on the implementation of the Agreement on the Maintenance of Peace and Tranquility along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas, which was signed during Prime Minister's visit to China on September 7, 1993.

During the discussions the two sides noted with satisfaction that the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) was peaceful and that confidence building measures already in place were working well. The two sides exchanged views on further confidence building measures and agreed in principle that additional points for meetings between the border personnel of the two countries will be established. Specific details regarding these additional points will be worked out in the India-China Expert Group. The two sides also took note of the considerable progress made at the first two sessions of the Expert Group. They noted that the Expert Group had reached agreement on its work regulations. The leaders of the two delegations directed the Expert Group to continue to adopt a positive and constructive approach in its future work.

The two sides also took this opportunity to exchange views on all aspects of India-China relations. Both sides expressed happing at the steady and perceptible improvement in bilateral ties and expanding cooperation between the two countries. They reiterated their commitment to maintain this positive trend. The two sides expressed satisfaction at the finalisation of the Agreement on avoidance of double taxation. Agreements on banking relations and cooperation in the area of health and medicines are also being finalised. The two sides also noted with satisfaction the opening of Shipkila route in Himachal Pradesh for border trade and agreed to carry out a joint study for improving the existing facilities and opening additional routes for Kailash Manasarovar Pilgrimage.

Views were also exchanged on regional and global issue of mutual interest. There was a convergence of positions on several international topics.

US Document on Kashmir

173. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:
SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "US Documents sees 'Jihad' links in J.K." appearing in the Hindustan Times, New Delhi dated June 29, 1994.

(b) if so, what are the facts thereof;

(c) what is the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) what steps have been taken or proposed to be taken to counternance Pakistan's reported perfidy in Kashmir and the potentially dangerous ramifications arising therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A report entitled "The Kashmir Connection" prepared by the Task Force on Terrorism and Unconventional Warfare, of the House Republican Research Committee, US House of Representatives documents Pakistan's role in international terrorism and its profound ramifications for India. This non-official report states that supporters of Islamist causes, put Kashmir high on their list of Jihads to be fought. Republican Congressman, Bill McCollum while focusing